

Message Text

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14

ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 DODE-00 MCT-01 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 /046 W

----- 086619

R 021515Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2427

INFO AMEMBASSY PANAMA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 11472

DEPT FOR A/SY/FO

PANAMA FOR RSS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJECT: INCIDENT AT HOME OF USMILGP OFFICER

1. SUMMARY, HOME OF COL GEORGE FISHER, USMILGP, CHILE, STRUCK BY A BULLET ON NOVEMBER 28 AT APPROXIMATELY 2215 HOURS. RSO INVESTIGATION INDICATES ROUND WAS OF SMALL CALIBRE, MOST LIKELY .32 OF .38. TRAJECTORY DETERMINED BY ENTRY AND EXIT POINT INDICATES ROUND DISCHARGED FROM CONSTRUCTION SITE APPROXIMATELY 100 METERS FROM FISHER'S RESIDENCE. MOTIVE, IF ANY, UNCERTAIN. MATTER HAS BEEN TURNED OVER TO LOCAL AUTHORITIES FOR INVESTIGATION. END SUMMARY.

2. ON NOVEMBER 30 LT COL RAFAEL GARCIA ADVISED THE RSO THAT THE MAID OF COL FISHER HAD MENTIONED TO THE WIFE OF LT COL FREDERICK VON GORTLER, USMILGP CHILE, THAT SHE BELIEVED THAT A BULLET HAD STRUCK THE HOME OF COL FISHER ON NOVEMBER 28. THIS INFORMATION WAS PASSED ON TO LT COL GARCIA WHO WENT TO THE FISHERS' RESIDENCE TO INVESTIGATE. LT COL GARCIA FOUND WHAT HE BELIEVED TO BE A BULLET HOLE IN THE SMOKESTACK OF THE CHIMNEY. GARCIA ALSO INTERVIEWED THE MAID WHO CLAIMED THAT SHE HEARD WHAT SHE BELIEVED TO BE A GUNSHOT AT APPROXIMATELY 2215 HOURS ON NOVEMBER 28. (NOTE: COL FISHER AND HIS WIFE ARE OUT OF TOWN UNTIL DECEMBER 8.

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HOME CURRENTLY OCCUPIED BY FISHERS' CHILDREN AND MAID.)

3. SUBSEQUENT INVESTIGATION BY THE RSO CONFIRMED THAT A ROUND HAD IN FACT PASSED THROUGH THE SMOKESTACK OF THE CHIMNEY. PERFORATION OF THE SMOKESTACK APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN CAUSED BY A SMALL CALIBRE ROUND, POSSIBLE .32 OR .38 CALIBRE. THE TRAJECTORY OF THE ROUND, DETERMINED BY THE ENTRY AND EXIT POINT, INDICATES THAT THE ROUND WAS FIRED FROM GROUND LEVEL AFROM APPROXIMATELY 100 METERS. A NEW HOME IS BEING CONSTRUCTED AT THAT LOCATION. THE PROJECTILE MOST LIKELY TRAVELED AN UNDETERMINED DISTANCE, PAST THE FISHER RESIDENCE, AND HAS NOT BEEN RECOVERED.

4. IMPOSSIBLE TO DETERMINE MOTIVE, IF ANY, AT THIS TIME. TO THE BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE, THERE HAS NOT BEEN ANY PRIOR INCIDENTS OF THIS NATURE IN COL FISHER'S NEIGHBORHOOD, ALTHOUGH FISHER'S MAID COMMENTED THAT SHE QUITE OFTEN HEARS THE SOUND OF GUNSHOTS AROUND 0100.

5. THIS MATTER HAS BEEN REPORTED TO GOC AUTHORITIES ALONG WITH A REQUEST FOR AN INVESTIGATION.
POPPER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: CunninFX
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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